

**THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY
OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. A method for resolving a web site address when connected with a virtual private network (VPN) comprising the steps of:

receiving a domain name request from a public host;

resolving said domain name request at a domain name server (DNS) associated with said VPN; and

returning an address location corresponding to said domain name request to said public host.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein, prior to said step of resolving said domain name request, said domain name request is forwarded to said DNS associated with said VPN.

3. A method of resolving a domain name request for a requesting host, said host connected to a virtual private network (VPN) comprising the steps of:

intercepting a domain name request directed at an internet service provider (ISP) domain name server (DNS) and redirecting said domain name request to a VPN DNS;

receiving a domain name response from said VPN DNS; and

returning said domain name response to said requesting host.

4. The method of Claim 3 further including the step of connecting said host to said domain name resulting from said domain name request.

5. A method for resolving a web site address when connected with a virtual private network (VPN) comprising the steps of:

intercepting a domain name request from a public host addressed to a pre-determined domain name server (DNS);

forwarding said domain name request to a DNS associated with said VPN;

receiving a domain name response including an address location corresponding to

1 said domain name request; and

2 forwarding said domain name response to said public host.

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4 6. The method of Claim 5 further comprising the step, occurring after said step of
5 intercepting said domain name request, a step of modifying said domain name request.

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7 7. The method of Claim 5 further comprising the step, occurring before said step of
8 forwarding said domain name request, a step of modifying said domain name response.

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10 8. Apparatus for resolving a web site address for a public host when connected with
11 a virtual private network (VPN) comprising:

12 a VPN domain name server (DNS) for resolving domain name requests; and
13 a software module for forwarding a domain name request to said VPN DNS and for
14 receiving a domain name response from said VPN DNS and for forwarding said response to said
15 public host.

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17 9. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein said domain names are related to private web
18 sites of public web sites.

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20 10. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein said software module modifies said domain name
21 request and said domain name response prior to forwarding said request and said response.

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23 11. The apparatus of Claim 10 wherein said software module is a driver.